



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Superintendents, Finance Directors, IT Directors

**FROM:** Lance V. Rhodes, Chief Financial Officer

**DATE:** May 29, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Educational Technology Stimulus Fund

The USDOE has confirmed a July 1, 2009 release date for the EETT-ARRA (Title II D--Enhancing Education Through Technology) funding totaling \$650 million dollars. The Indiana appropriation of this funding is \$10,919,227.

The Indiana Department of Education has established some **tentative** guidelines and timelines for the release of the funds to the LEA's. These guidelines and timelines are subject to official guidance from the USDOE and the receipt of this formal notification of grant award from the USDOE.

### Overview and Timeline

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- The EETT funds target high need school corporations. A list of corporations eligible to receive this funding is available at: <http://www.doe.in.gov/olr/welcome.html>.
- Corporations not listed as eligible, may partner with an eligible school.
- The funds will be distributed through a competitive grant process.
- Anticipate a formal letter and application to be released from this office on June 10, 2009.
- The application process will remain open until close of business on July 10, 2009.
- IDOE expects to make a formal announcement of EETT-ARRA award winners on August 7, 2009. The distribution of funds will follow after processing.

### Additional Details

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- While final application guidance and the application itself have not yet been released, we anticipate following the general approach outlined in a current grant program described at this address: <http://www.doe.in.gov/olr/LearningTechnologiesGrants.htm>
- Base awards for the EETT-ARRA grants will range from \$100,000 to \$300,000 based on school size. (Eligible corporations with 500 or fewer students may request \$100,000. Corporations with more than 500 students may request an additional \$25/student with a maximum base award of \$300,000.)
- Partnerships between eligible corporations and non-eligible corporations can request additional funding of up to 50% of the base award.
- Participation in current EETT grants *does not* limit participation in this round of competitive grants.

- There is a possibility that a local match percentage will be incorporated as a component of the application to allow corporations to demonstrate local commitment to the programs being proposed.

We are providing this preliminary guidance because we realize that a month is a short time for creating an excellent grant application. If you are interested in applying, please begin to work now to design the program or programs that will be the basis of your application. As in the past, the Learning Technologies Team at the IDOE will host a series of conference calls to provide additional guidance to corporations once the application is open. By adopting an aggressive timeline, we hope to get these funds distributed as close to the beginning of the 2009-10 school year as possible.

Finally, we have been working with the Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA) on procurement practices that can stretch these stimulus funds. During the week of June 8<sup>th</sup> the IDOA will be hosting two webinars to provide an overview of a new demand aggregation tool. This tool can be used to realize deeper discounts for technology purchases through bulk purchasing and works in conjunction with the state Quantity Purchasing Agreement. This approach to procurement is offered as a service and not as a requirement. Additional information regarding these webinars will be forthcoming.

Our staff is committed to the efficient administration of these important stimulus funds. As stated above, the schedule, timelines, and details are subject to change as we work closely with our Federal partners in this joint project.

Thank you for your time.